

# ANSWERING 10 QUESTIONS ON THEOLOGY BY HARRIS KAKOULIDES

None

Story Writer

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# Chapter 01 Does the Doctrine of the Trinity Contradict Deuteronomy 6:4 "Hear, O Israel, the LORD is our God, the LORD is ONE"? Why yes or why no?

No it does not. For the Hebrew word for one **אֶחָד** echâd implies one in unity in the verse which could be impied to the Trinity which states God is one in nature but 3 in persons.

Gen 1:5 UKJV And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the FIRST (echâd) day.

Gen 2:24 UKJV Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one (echâd) flesh.

Notice evening and morning one day

Two one flesh

There is a other word which if it was used for one the argument for the Trinity would fall to the dust which is **יָחִיד** yâchîyd.

Which word is used as Solitary in Pslams 68

Psa 68:6 UKJV God sets the solitary in families: he brings out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.

Because that word is not used we find evidence for the Trinity.

# Chapter 02 Why was Arianism treated as being heretical?

Arius denied Jesus and The Holy Spirit was God in nature. And said there was a time when the Son did not exist.

The Ecclesiastical History, By Socrates Scholasticus 380-450 AD states Book 1 Chapter 5 {"A certain one of the presbyters under his jurisdiction, whose name was Arius, possessed of no inconsiderable logical acumen, imagining that the bishop was subtly teaching the same view of this subject as Sabellius the Libyan, from love of controversy took the opposite opinion to that of the Libyan, and as he thought vigorously responded to what was said by the bishop. 'If,' said he, 'the Father begat the Son, he that was begotten had a beginning of existence: and from this it is evident, that there was a time when the Son was not. It therefore necessarily follows, that he had his substance from nothing.'"} }

This is a denial of the early church teaching that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are equal in nature.

The Didache 100 A.D. Chapter 7 {"(1) Now concerning baptism, baptize as follows: after you have reviewed" all these things, baptize "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" in running water. "}

Ignatius 50 to 110 AD in his Epistles to Philipppians Chapter 2 ("There is then one God and Father, and not two or three; One who is; and there is no other besides Him, the only true [God]. For "the Lord thy God," saith [the Scripture], "is one Lord." And again, "Hath not one God created us? Have we not all one Father? And there is also one Son, God the Word. For "the

only-begotten Son,” saith [the Scripture], “who is in the bosom of the Father.” And again, “One Lord Jesus Christ.” And in another place, “What is His name, or what His Son’s name, that we may know?” And there is also one Paraclete. For “there is also,” saith [the Scripture], “one Spirit, since “we have been called in one hope of our calling.” And again, “We have drunk of one Spirit, "with what follows. And it is manifest that all these gifts [possessed by believers] “works one and the self-same Spirit.” There are not then either three Fathers, or three Sons, or three Paracletes, but one Father, and one Son, and one Paraclete. Wherefore also the Lord, when He sent forth the apostles to make disciples of all nations, commanded them to “baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,” not unto one [person] having three names, nor into three [persons] who became incarnate, but into three possessed of equal honor.”}

Cyprian (200 -258 AD) On the Unity of the Church states {“The Lord says, “I and the Father are one;” and again it is written of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, “And these three are one.”}

Gregory Thaumaturgus 205- 260 AD in A Declaration of Faith {“There is a perfect Trinity, in glory and eternity and sovereignty, neither divided nor estranged. Wherefore there is nothing either created or in servitude in the Trinity; nor anything superinduced, as if at some former period it was non-existent, and at some later period it was introduced. And thus, neither was the Son ever wanting to the Father, nor the Spirit to the Son; but without variation and without change, the same Trinity abides ever. “}

# Chapter 03 Why is the Trinity incompatible with Judaism, if it says God is one but in 3 persons?

Before judging the Christian as wrong, one does well in looking at the meaning of (one) in the Shema.

Deu 6:4 Tanakh: יְשׁוּעַ וְיִשְׁכָּב לַיהוָה אֵל יִנּוּיָהּ | אֶחָד:

Deu 6:4 Tanakh-1917 HEAR, O ISRAEL: THE LORD OUR GOD,  
THE LORD IS ONE.

𐤓𐤍𐤁 echâd is the word used for one

Which word also stands for unity for example it is used in reference to Adam and Eve being one flesh .

עֲלֶיךָ יַעֲזֹב־יֵשׁ אֶת־אָ יוֹ וְאֶת־אָ וְיָד קִבְּאַשׁ וְיָהּ ו Gen 2:24 Tanakh  
לְבָר אֶחָד:

Gen 2:24 Tanakh-1917 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh.

Notice two yet one Flesh . The Trinity is three persons yet one God which does not contradicts the Shema.

Now there is a word that if the Shema was to use as one can argue against the Trinity and that word is יחיד *yâchîyd*

Now if this word was used in the Shema Then no one can argue for the case of the Trinity for that word means only solitary, single and no unity.

אֱלֹהִים | וַיְבַרְכֵם יְהוָה | יְתֵה מוֹיָא סִירִּים בְּכֹנֶשׁ וְתָן  
וְכִי יִשְׁכַּח וְצָחִיתָה:



Gen 3:22 Tanakh-1917 And the LORD God said: ‘Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever.’

When God is going to confuse the people language at the tower of Babel he uses plural terms.

Gen 11:7 Tanakh אֲנִי יִשְׁמַח וְיִשְׁעַת בְּהַ נְרָה וְנָבְהַ מִּשְׁפָּה מִשְׁפָּה

Gen 11:7 Tanakh-1917 Come, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.'

When Aaron gives the Priestly blessings upon the people of God , he mentions Lord three times so God can put his name on the people

יְבָרֶכְךָ יְיָ הַיִּשְׁמֶרְךָ: ס 25 יְרֵי הַפֶּיּוֹאֵ יְיָ 24 Tanakh Num 6:24-27  
 וַיְחַנֵּב: ס 26 אֵלֵהּ הַפָּנִי אֵלֵי יְיָ לְשָׁלוֹם: ס 27 וְשָׂאֵתֶּשׁ יַעֲלֶבְי  
 יִשְׁבֵּל וְאַגְבִּרְכֶּם: פ

Num 6:24-27 Tanakh-1917 24 The LORD bless thee, and keep thee; 25  
The LORD make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee; 26  
The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. 27 So  
shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, and I will bless them.'

There are other agreements one can take from the Torah for the belief in the Trinity like the word אלהים *ělôhîym* being a plural noun for God in Genesis 1:1 but let's leave it here.

But my point is there is a pretty Good case for the Trinity Shalom.



# Chapter 04 Complementarianism vs. egalitarianism—which view is Biblically correct?

Let's define each view, first Complementarianism is the view that men and women have different roles and position in the family and church. Second Egalitarianism denies the different position and roles in family and church by stating they are equal in position, roles and authority.

Complementarianism is the Biblical view

Though Men and woman are equal in reference to salvation

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28 NKJV)

We have different positions or roles in the church and marriage.

A Women has to submit her husband

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Col 3:18 ¶ Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

The Husband is the head of the family

But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. (1 Corinthians 11:3 NKJV)

A woman cannot exceed the office of a Pastor of men in the church

Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. (1 Timothy 2:11-12 NKJV)

Now why is that because the marriage is a type or shadow of the Trinity in God where the Son submits to the Father and recognizes his headship over the Godhead.

But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. (1 Corinthians 11:3 NKJV)

# Chapter 05 Why would God limit Adam and Eve's intelligence if he wanted a relationship with humanity?

God did not make man because he was lonely for God is a Trinity and didn't need companionship, having himself. God before he made man knew and ordained their fall and their redemption through Jesus Christ.

“just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,” Eph 1:4 (NKJV)

As their creator he was entitled to do what he wanted to do with them.

“But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?"”

Rom 9:20 (NKJV)

He limited their knowledge for their own good. How many times we think we know what is best and end up making things worse. But many times, we see those who have great capacity in knowledge are the first to deny there is a God. Which shows they are not as smart as others claim them to be.

“But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;” 1Cor 1:27 (NKJV)

# Chapter 06 What can you say to the statement, "If it is not in the Bible, don't believe in it"?

Why do we have scripture ( The Bible) ?

For doctrine ( teaching ) and right living 2Ti 3:16-17 ISV 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good action.

For salvation through Jesus Christ Joh5:39-40 ISV 39 You examine the Scriptures carefully because you suppose that in them you have eternal life. Yet they testify about me. 40 But you are not willing to come to me to have life.

For examples of what to do or not do by seeing those who went before us. 1Co 10:6 ISV Now their experiences serve as examples for us so that we won't set our hearts on evil as they did.

For prophecy ( the future spoken in advance by a prophet spokesman of God) 2Pe 1:20-21 ISV 20 First of all, you must understand this: No prophecy in Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 because no prophecy ever originated through a human decision. Instead, men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

What things we should think about ,watch and hear. Phi 4:8 ISV Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is fair, whatever is pure, whatever is acceptable, whatever is commendable, if there is

anything of excellence and if there is anything praiseworthy—keep thinking about these things.

The Bible does not tell us every thing . We don't find information on how to fix your AC , plumbing, what kind of shampoo you should use, what's the best brand of paper toilet ,how to make a airplane or car these God was please to give this information to men by other means than the Bible.

There are some words there are not in the Bible but the idea is for example the word rapture is not in the Bible but Bible speaks of Jesus coming and picking his church, the word theocracy is not in the Bible but yet Israel what is a theocracy under the rule of Moses and the judges, the word Trinity is not in the Bible but the Bible speaks of three persons in one God ,there are many words they're not mentioned in the Bible but ideas is.

# Chapter 07 How do historians and theologians look at the Bible?

The Historian looks at the Bible as a group of historical documents depending whether he or she is a Christian or not. The Bible has lots of historic information, like which king ruled at what time, names of places that one time existed. Now if he or she is not a Christian he or she will also look at other sources as well to either prove its accuracy or its inaccuracy in the events it says. Now if they are a Christian they will also look at other sources as well but for the reason to prove the Bible's accuracy. Some of the things that they will look at besides the Bible is archeology, pottery, seals, and scrolls written at the time, that were written around its time that will confirm whether these events are true or not. Some questions which they might ask themselves: How people lived in those times? How did they dress, what did they eat. Who wrote this book. What time was this book written. Who ruled in that period of time, can the events that mention here agree with other documents that were written at the time the Bible's books said it was written. Did those lands really exist at the time where the books of the Bible said it existed.

While the theologian acknowledges the history, but cares less for it, but seeks to look more at the teachings of the documents. What these documents can teach us about human nature, sin, God, devil. Is the teaching of the Trinity can it be found throughout the Bible. Does the Bible speak about hell and where is hell located. Or if they look at the history, how can I prove that these events actually happen.

# Chapter 08 How do you pray so God hears you?

Prayer can be done to any of the Three members of the Trinity

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.” 1Jn 1:3 (NKJV)

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.” 2Cor 13:14 (NKJV)

Same word in the Greek κοινωνία koinōnia which means communion , fellowship , relationship.

## 1. In Secret

“But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.” Mat 6:6 (NKJV)

## 2. In repentance of sins

“If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.” Ps 66:18 (NKJV)

## 3. Prayer is done in the name of Jesus

John 14:13–14 “And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.” “If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

John 16 (NKJV)<sup>23</sup> And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.<sup>24</sup> Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

#### 4. According to God's will

1Jn 5 (NKJV)<sup>14</sup> Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.<sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

#### 5. In Faith (Trusting) God would answer

Jam 1 (NKJV)<sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.<sup>7</sup> For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

#### 6. In Perseverance till he answers

Luk 18 (NKJV)<sup>1</sup> Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,<sup>2</sup> saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.<sup>3</sup> Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.'<sup>4</sup> And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man,<sup>5</sup> yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'<sup>6</sup> Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said.<sup>7</sup> And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?<sup>8</sup> I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

God always answers in one of three ways

Some times he says yes

Sometimes he says no

Other times he says wait



# Chapter 09 As a protestant, do you understand why Catholic, Orthodox, Ethiopian, Oriental and Assyrian Churches venerate Mary and the other Saints?

I understand but I don't agree with it. This is still necromancy and Idolatry which the Bible goes against.

"There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, "or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. "For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you. (Deuteronomy 18:10-12 NKJV)

Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth. Why should the Gentiles say, "So where is their God?" But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases. Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. Those who make them

are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them. O Israel, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield. (Psalms 115:1-9 NKJV)

Even Peter and Paul were against themselves being venerated in such a matter.

As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I myself am also a man." (Acts 10:25-26 NKJV)

Then the priest of Zeus, whose temple was in front of their city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, intending to sacrifice with the multitudes. But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, (Acts 14:13-15 NKJV)

Worship and speak to God the Trinity only. The only mediator in scripture is Jesus.

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, (1 Timothy 2:5 NKJV)

Jesus was against the worship of his mother. Look at what he states when someone tries to praise her.

And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!" But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!" (Luke 11:27-28 NKJV)

We are more blessed if we obey the word of God than his dear mother who gave him birth. And in another place, he said

Then one said to Him, "Look, your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You." But He answered and said to

the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! "For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother." (Matthew 12:47-50 NKJV)

He considers his followers more of his mother than his human mother. Mary was a vessel who was used to bore the Messiah as one would use a bottle with only one aspirin, once you have the aspirin in your hand you don't need the bottle anymore.

# Chapter 10 Why does everybody seem to read the Bible as either literally true or entirely false? Does nobody else think Jesus was an extraordinary man whose life was mythologised by people trying to spread his valuable message?

I take the Bible to be words of God and Jesus to be God the Son second in the Trinity but there are some people with those beliefs which you state Thomas Jefferson had that belief ,he wrote what is known as the Jefferson Bible by cutting out the miracles from the life of Jesus in the Gospels . He call this book Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth

From his introduction

(““I, too, have made a wee-little book from the same materials (The Gospels) which I call the Philosophy of Jesus. It is a pardigma of his doctrines, made by cutting the texts out of the book and arranging them on the pages of a blank book, in a certain order of time or subject. A more beautiful or precious morsel of ethics I have never seen. It is a document in proof that I am a REAL CHRISTIAN, that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus, very different from the Platonists who call ME infidel and THEMSELVES Christians and preachers of the Gospel, while they

draw all their characteristic dogmas from what its author never said nor saw. They have compounded from the heathen mysteries a system beyond the comprehension of man, of which the great reformer of the vicious ethics and deism of the Jews, were he to return to earth, would not recognize one feature.

-Jefferson to Mr. Charles Thompson.””)

He end's his book with the burial of Jesus

But what evidence do you or Jefferson or anyone has that Jesus was not the Son of God , that the miracles in the Bible didn't happen. Even in the Talmud Jesus is spoken as someone who did things out of the ordinary . It calls him a sorcerer.

Tractate Sanhedrin Daf 43a

(“AND A HERALD PRECEDES HIM etc. This implies, only immediately before [the execution], but not previous thereto. [In contradiction to this] it was taught: On the eve of the Passover Yeshu was hanged. For forty days before the execution took place, a herald went forth and cried, 'He is going forth to be stoned because he has practised sorcery and enticed Israel to apostacy. Any one who can say anything in his favour, let him come forward and plead on his behalf.' But since nothing was brought forward in his favour he was hanged on the eve of the Passover.”)

We also see in the earliest copy of Josephus Who was born around 30 AD and in 100AD, whose parents might of seen the miracles of Jesus, he states about Jesus

Antiquities.18.3.3 (“ (63) Now, there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works--a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was [THE] Christ; (64) and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day,

as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him; and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day.”)

And for something to be mythologised about Jesus it would be very difficult in such a short span which the New Testament was written for there would of been many people who was alive during Jesus and Apostles life span that could of testified against it.

# Chapter 11 Someone commented on the last question

Thank you very much for that. I've actually been thinking, surely I'm not the first person to head down this path? I'm stunned to see Jefferson was among them (though I've taken quite an irrational dislike to him since Hamilton).

On Josephus, it's likely he never mentioned Jesus at all. I forget all the details, but I've been well-convinced by scholars his section on Jesus was added later.

# Chapter 12 My reply

The only reason why some scholars believe it was added because the early church fathers quoted Josephus as a source but the earliest manuscripts of Josephus states the phrase I quoted on him. Josephus elsewhere mentions James The brother of Jesus being killed and states he was the brother of Christ.

Antiquities.20.9.1 (“(200) when, therefore, Ananus was of this disposition, he thought he had now a proper opportunity [TO EXERCISE HIS AUTHORITY]. Festus was now dead, and Albinus was but upon the road; so he assembled the sanhedrin of judges, and brought before them the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James, and some others, [OR, SOME OF HIS COMPANIONS]; and when he had formed an accusation against them as breakers of the law, he delivered them to be stoned;”)

So in the way he mentioned James shows that before hand he had mentioned Jesus previously and spoke about him as to mention James as Jesus brother..



# Chapter 13 Acceptance of What was said

Yes, that makes perfect sense. Also, I take back what I said. There is the undisputed mention in context of James.